500.39240X00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

INOUE et al.

Serial No.:

09/698,185

Filed:

October 30, 2000

For:

SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND METHOD FOR

MANUFACTURING THE SAME

Group:

2811

Examiner:

L. Thai

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

January 14, 2002 Amolt at FJONES
1-2202

Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated December 12, 2001, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 7-14 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof.

Please amend claim 2 as follows:

(Amended) A\semiconductor apparatus according to 2. Claim 1, wherein said viring is formed on one of said opposite inclined portions which is smaller in inclination angle than the other of said opposite inclined portions of said electrically insulating layer.